

KING COUNTY LANDMARKS COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

*Thursday, October 25, 2012
4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Tipping Floor Conference Room #7255
King Street Center
201 S. Jackson Street
Seattle, WA*

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Lauren McCroskey, Chair; Tom Hitzroth, Vice Chair; Rick Chouinard; Lorelea Hudson; Brian Rich

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Kji Kelly; Thaisa Way; Lynette Weber

STAFF PRESENT: Julie Koler; Todd Scott

GUESTS: John Chaney; Flo Lentz; Mary McCormick

CALL TO ORDER: Chair McCroskey called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

REPORT FROM 4CULTURE: Flo Lentz presented an update on the interlocal cities funding program that is a pilot project for 4Culture this year. She described the workshops that were held last spring and said that in order to be eligible to apply to the new program, a city had to send two representatives to one of the workshops: a staff person, and either a special commissioner or an elected official. Of the 17 cities invited, 13 fulfilled the attendance requirement; however, only five cities submitted grant applications. She said there is a total of \$16,500 available for the program, and the requests totaled \$25,850. An internal review panel will meet November 5th to develop funding recommendations for 4Culture's Historic Preservation Advisory Committee.

4Culture is also creating two additional historic preservation funding programs: one for special projects and one for sustained support. Lentz said these will be similar to the heritage programs. The amount of funding available for these programs has not yet been determined.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER'S REPORT: Koler introduced Mary McCormick, a nominee for a position on the landmarks commission.

Koler said that the City of Burien has adopted a local preservation ordinance and approved an interlocal agreement with King County for historic preservation services. She said that Tukwila is moving in the same direction and that the city council could act as early as November 5th.

Koler indicated that the department would be hiring a facilitator for the strategic plan update. This was a suggestion from AKCHO with which Department Director True concurred. Koler said staff will meet with the facilitator once they've been retained prior to finalizing the schedule for the plan.

She said that the HPP's budget has moved forward as proposed by the county executive. Koler said the HPP fund will support most of the program but that a small portion would be offset by grant dollars and fees for service. She said revenue projections for the recording fee remain relatively flat for the next couple of years.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: McCroskey asked for additions or amendments to the September minutes. Koler noted that the motion to continue the public hearing from the last meeting didn't include a date certain; however, staff thought it was clear the audience believed the date would be November 15th. Several commissioners concurred. Koler said that the hearing was closed to additional public comment. McCroskey asked for a motion to approve the September 27, 2012 minutes as submitted. Rich moved for approval. The motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Chaney introduced himself as the president of AKCHO, thanked Tom Hitzroth for his participation on the AKCHO board, and thanked HPP staff for their regular attendance. Chaney said he is looking forward to participating on the strategic plan advisory committee as the official AKCHO representative. Koler asked about Karen Meador's participation, with the understanding that she was also an official representative of AKCHO. Chaney stated that she is an alternate, but urged Koler to retain her as she would be a good representative from south King County. Mary McCormick asked what AKCHO is and Chaney described the organization's mission and said it had been in existence for 35 years. Koler stated it was originally staffed by the historic preservation program until the reorganization occurred about ten years ago.

Chaney said he is concerned about the use of the HPP fund. He said AKCHO (AKCHO Board) continues to feel the historic preservation program should be funded partially with county general funds, allowing for a portion of the HPP fund to be distributed to 4Culture for other activities. Chaney wondered why he hasn't received a letter from the County Executive appointing him to the CAC. Koler said letters confirming his appointment and two additional members will be sent once everyone has confirmed their interest in participating. McCroskey closed the public comment period.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Koler invited commissioners to attend the next AKCHO general membership meeting on Tuesday at the Burke Museum. There will be a presentation on the county's archaeology program and on collections management by the Burke. Following that there will be an artifact identification workshop.

Koler thanked Commissioner Rich for his work developing a budget and scope of work for the Kvisvik-Martindale chicken house on Vashon Island. Rich said the scope is for emergency stabilization. No debris removal is anticipated yet. Costs of stabilization will be about \$5000 for materials. Koler indicated that if it can be stabilized, then there will likely be a push to designate it as a landmark. Koler said that the new Vashon Chamber of Commerce executive director is enthusiastic about exploring ways in which to implement some of the Storefront studio projects.

Todd Scott summarized the recent "Preservation as Sustainability" presentation at Seattle's Town Hall, and said that he would be attending the National Trust conference in Spokane next week to gain additional insight into possible language for incorporation in the county's revised green building ordinance. Chouinard said he will be out of town for the next commission meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: McCroskey adjourned the meeting at 6:05 pm to enter into executive session per RCW 42.30.110 to discuss a legal issue with the commission's legal counsel. The executive session adjourned at 6:40 pm.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business following the executive session, the meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.